

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

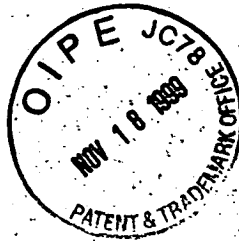
Application of:

PRUITT, Martin E., et al.

Serial No.: 09/153,290

Filed: September 15, 1998

**ROTARY MOWER CONDITIONER HAVING
IMPROVED CUT CROP FLOW**



Examiner: Petravick, M.
Group Art Unit No. 3671

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action of September 22, 1999, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered in the above-referenced application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2 and 14 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend claims 1, 5, 13 and 15-24 as follows:

~~1.~~ (Amended) A crop harvesting header configured for attachment to the mobile frame of a harvesting machine, said header comprising:

a crop cutting assembly [defining] comprising a series of rotary cutters that are rotatable about individual, upright axes and that cooperatively define a laterally extending cutting zone along which crop material is severed from the ground by the cutting assembly;

a pair of laterally extending crop conditioning rolls cooperatively defining a nip therebetween that is spaced upwardly and rearwardly from the cutting zone; and

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